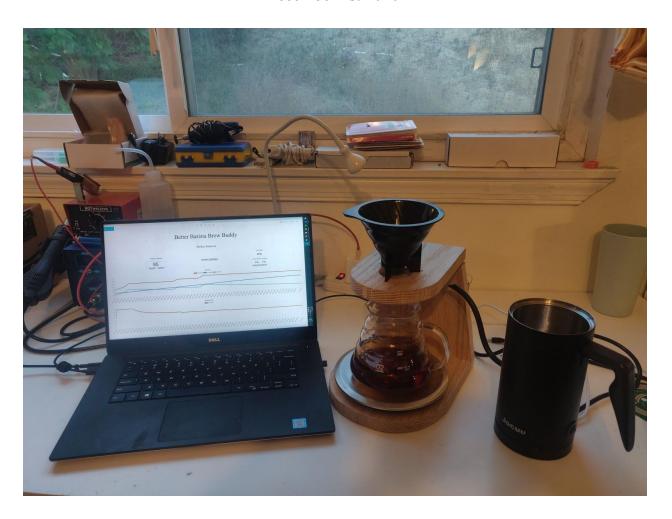
# Better Barista: Brew Data Interface

Tejus Rao & Samin Zachariah E155 - Microprocessor based systems December 1st 2020



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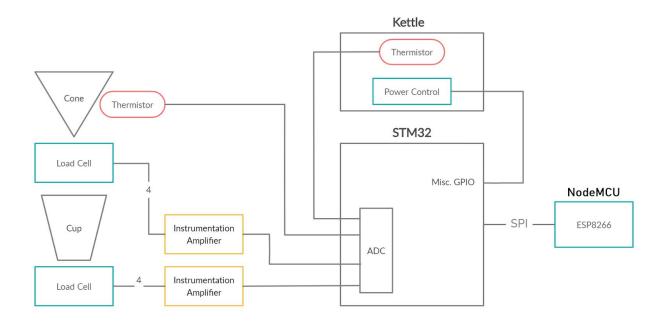
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## Overview

The Better Barista is a system designed to help home baristas improve their pour over technique and make consistently tasty coffee. In pour over brewing, due to the amount of manual control in the brewing process, it is hard for home baristas to control the variables involved in brewing. In order to make repeatable coffee however, controlling these variables is essential. Some of these variables are coffee ground size, coffee dose, water temperature, water pouring rate, the flow rate through the coffee bed, the total weight of the brew, and the total time to brew. Furthermore, certain styles of pourover have varying flow rates over time, which is very hard to make repeatable without external aid.

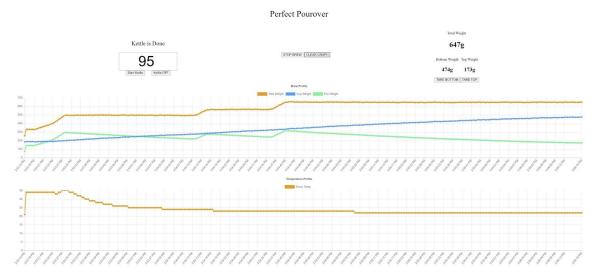
The Better Barista provides a solution to this problem by plotting the total weight, the cup weight, and the funnel weight on a live graph. This way the barista can visually see flow rate over time and use the live feedback to adjust their pour to match their desired brew profile. Users can also use the data from the resulting brew profiles to see which types of pouring styles they may prefer.

To accomplish this live feedback system the Better Barista uses two load cells to measure weight in the cup and in the funnel, as well as a thermistor to measure the temperature of the coffee/water slurry. This data is recorded by an STM32 microcontroller and sent to a NodeMCU. The NodeMCU, a development-board for the ESP8266, serves a web-app through which users can view the live graphing of weights and temperature. Additionally, the system interfaces with a Jocuu electric kettle to provide remote start/stop and digital temperature control features, accessible through the Better Barista web-app.



## **Block Diagram**

## Better Barista Brew Buddy



Interface displaying a 3-pour brew with constant flow rate

# Mechanical Design

## Stand construction & Sensor Mounting

The requirements for the stand design were to use two load cells to measure the weight of the v60 cone and the weight in the cup, and to mount the thermistor in such a way that it is capable of measuring the temperature of the water in the cone.



Bottom and Top Load Cell Mounting

The primary consideration when designing this was fabrication constraints due to a significant restriction of available tools.

In mounting the thermistor in the v60 funnel a compromise is required between usability of the system and temperature measurement quality. For the best measurement of water-coffee-slurry temperature the thermistor should be in the middle of the cone. This is impractical however, as the user is required to change the paper filter in the cone each time, and the filter cannot be punctured to accommodate the thermistor. Because of this the thermistor is mounted on the wall of the funnel so that it is in contact with the outside of the paper filter.

#### Connectors

There are two components in this device that contain sensors that must also be removed from their respective resting places. These are the funnel, which must be removable from the top stand for washing, and the kettle which must be taken off its base to pour. This provides connector

design challenges as ergonomics are extremely important for a design that is meant to be interacted with daily.

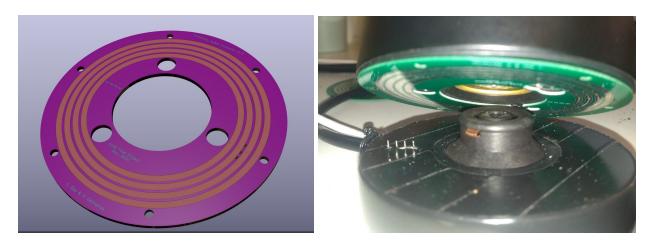
In order to allow the funnel to be removed, the thermistor inside the v60 funnel is connected to a female header embedded in the plastic of the funnel. This connects to a pair of male headers in the top stand. When the funnel is placed on the stand there is a robust connection between the thermistor inside the funnel and the voltage divider. The funnel can be removed and washed while still having a robust connection between the thermistor and the STM32 microcontroller. This design also allows the funnel to be used in a standard pour over setup.



Funnel Thermistor Connector

The thermistor used is a waterproof  $10k\Omega$  thermistor, connected to the STM32's ADC input through a voltage divider. As the temperature changes, the thermistors resistance changes and this results in a voltage change at the ADC pin.

For the kettle, in addition to being removed, it must also be able to rotate on its base. This is so that the user can place the kettle down on the stand in any orientation, as well as pick it up without worry of breaking a connector. In order to achieve this rotational flexibility a custom PCB was fabricated. The PCB contains large concentric pads on one side, and small pads wired to the signals from the microcontroller on the kettle. The PCB is then mounted on the bottom of the kettle. Four spring pins are mounted in the kettle base such that each contacts one of the concentric pads. The spring pins ensure solid connection between the kettle signals and the STM regardless of orientation. A four-conductor USB wire carries these signals to the main electronics system.

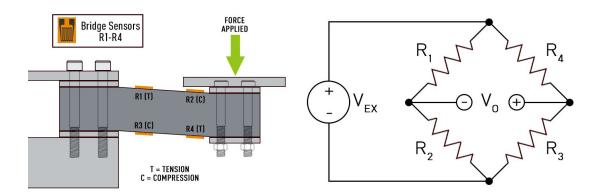


PCB and spring pin interface

# Electrical Design

## Load Cell Interface

The load cells, which are constructed from 4 strain gauges, can be modeled as wheatstone bridges. An excitation voltage is applied to two nodes, while fluctuations in force change the resistances such that the output node voltage differs. The quantity of interest is actually the difference in voltage at those two nodes, Vo + and Vo-, which is a very small quantity.



Initial testing showed that with a 5V excitation voltage, over a range of 0 to 1000 grams, the output voltage differential only fluctuates between approximately 0 to 3mV. Thus, large amounts of amplification were necessary, but achievable. Typically, load cells are followed by an instrumentation amplifier, such as the popular AD623, which offer a significantly better common mode rejection ratio than a standard non-inverting amplifier, for example, due to the use of a differential pair of signals. This is important when dealing with such small voltage signals.

Unfortunately, this was not available during testing. While a differential amplifier can be made with a single op-amp, the input impedance of signals can often affect the gain, even if it's been set by resistors. Instead of having to determine the input impedance and compensate for it, a three op-amp instrumental amplifier was implemented using a quad-package single ended op-amp (MCP6004), which is unaffected by the input impedance.

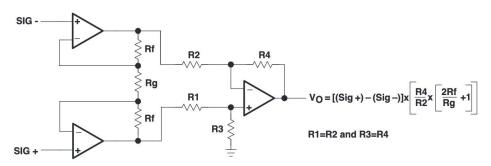


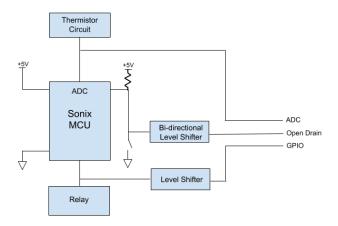
Figure 5. Three Op Amp Instrumentation Amplifier

For testing purposes, a R1-R4 and Rf were set to  $10k\Omega$  and a gain of 201 was achieved with Rg set to  $100\Omega$ . This worked very well, and allowed for the measurement of the following calibration curves for both load cells. Conveniently, the curves show the kind of linearity expected of these sensors (see appendix). Note that the gain of 201 has been factored out for these curves.

An additional differential amplifier with a gain of 6.9 and an adjustable offset follows the instrumentation amplifier for both load cells in order to spread out the range of values through the entire 0-3.3V ADC range. This offers more precision in measurement with the on-board Nucleo ADC. The adjustable offset for each load cell circuit is achieved through a voltage divider with a potentiometer, which allows for calibration. Unity gain buffers are used on the offset voltage signals so that the impedances of the voltage dividers do not interfere with the amplifier gains. It is also important to mention that though these load cells are rated for up to 2kg, the decision was made to only take advantage of their 0 to 1000g range. This decision was made so that the proposed precision of  $\pm 1g$  could be met, even with some noise. Collectively, these decisions and considerations have all been made to most effectively map the Nucleo ADC's 0-3.3V range to values between 0-1000g with the maximum possible precision, approximately  $\pm 1g$ .

## Kettle Interface

The project proposal discussed the modification of a simple electric kettle to implement functionality such as remote start and temperature control. In order to achieve this, the kettle's internal circuit was studied closely. The major components include a full-bridge rectifier and large smoothing capacitor with a discharge resistor, a relay, a thermal cutoff switch, a thermistor, a SONIX 8-bit microcontroller, a pushbutton, and several passives and LEDs. After mapping out the majority of the circuit and developing a decent understanding of the microcontroller's signals by using a logic analyzer, the circuit was simplified to the components of interest. It was desirable, for several reasons, to have the kettle still able to function in its "standalone mode". An open-drain configured pin on the Nucleo connected to the kettle's pushbutton input on the SONIX MCU was used to act as an external switch. This allows both the pushbutton and the Nucleo to pull down the voltage on this bus at any point without interfering with pin output settings. Another Nucleo pin is used to read the digital control signal to the relay to determine when the kettle is on, and an ADC channel is used to read the analog voltage coming into the SONIX ADC from the kettle's thermistor circuit. After some testing, it was found that the kettle shuts off when this voltage reaches 1.37V.



One further challenge was that the SONIX MCU was 5V logic compatible, whereas the Nucleo is 3.3V compatible. As such, a bi-directional level-shifter circuit was constructed with an n-channel MOSFET that allows the switch bus to be pulled low by either the pushbutton or the open-drain Nucleo pin and to idle high at each side's respective logic level. An additional logic level shifter circuit constructed as a voltage divider was used to read the digital relay signal from the kettle. (See Appendix A for level shifter schematics).

Finally, a calibration curve was measured for the thermistor circuit voltage within the kettle. During tests, the device demonstrated "remote" kettle control temperature accuracy of  $\pm 1^{\circ}$ C.

### **ADC** Noise Reduction

Noise was a significant challenge in dealing with these signals. For the load cells, even with very stable instrumentation amplifier outputs, and very stable offset voltages into the differential amplifier, the signals going into the ADC fluctuated rather significantly by about ±5mV at times. Probing the power rails, periodic and gaussian noise were observable, though it was difficult to detect the source. Even with several bypass capacitors near ADC input pins, there was still fluctuation. For the kettle's thermistor, 60Hz pick-up was found to be a leading cause of fluctuation, which seems reasonable given that the kettle's signals are all very close to AC 110V mains power lines. This was dealt with in software by averaging 20 samples over one period of a 60Hz sinusoid. This yielded only ±1LSB of noise in the ADC measurements. For the load cells, due to long cables and many amplification stages, the best way to handle noise given the available resources was also in software. Over the course of approximately 30ms, 2000 samples are taken and averaged, which resulted in approximately ±3LSB of noise for a constant load. Given that 1LSB was equivalent to approximately 0.25g, this was within our tolerance specification.

## Software

The software components are firmware running on the STM32 to collect sensor values, a server hosted on the NodeMCU, and a frontend web-application.

### STM32 firmware

The STM32 conducts the sensor reads using the onboard ADC, and controls the kettle heating logic. These functions are triggered upon SPI interrupts generated from incoming signals from the NodeMCU. When the SPI interrupt is triggered the incoming data is parsed for the instruction type, temperature setting, and sensor ID, then executed on the STM32 with the result being written into the SPI TX register to be sent back to the NodeMCU. The ADC threshold watchdog is used to generate interrupts when the kettle reaches the desired temperature or is lifted.

We used the peripheral libraries provided by Professor Joshua Brake for the STM32F401RE, along with the main.h file from lecture 22

#### **ADC**

The new functionality used on the STM32 is the ADC peripheral. Four ADC channels are used, two for the output of the load cell circuits, one for the output of the thermistor voltage divider, and the kettle thermistor voltage. The four channels are scanned in sequence, and several measures were used to decrease noise in the samples.

#### SPI

The STM32 is configured as an SPI slave device to receive commands from the NodeMCU. This is done so that the NodeMCU can request sensor values only when the web-app is actively being used. If the STM were configured as a master device, it would require constant polling of the NodeMCU to determine if a request was made to the server. The commands received from the NodeMCU consist of 16 bit transmissions.

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
RES		Instruction type		Instruction arguments											

Instruction type specifies whether to perform a sensor read or a kettle settings update. In the case of a sensor read, the instruction argument specifies which sensor to read. In the case of a kettle update, the instruction argument is a 12-bit ADC threshold value. This threshold is given to the analog watchdog which raises in interrupt when the target is reached.

The STM32 processes the required instruction, and sends the corresponding data back to the NodeMCU.

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Kettle Status Sensor ID				12-bit ADC read											

The Kettle status indicates whether the kettle is on/off, heating, or off the base. The sensor ID corresponds to which load cell or thermistor the ADC value is from.

#### NodeMCU

The web-app consists of a backend running on the NodeMCU that is written in C using an HTTP server library, and a frontend web-application that runs in a browser written in HTML, CSS, and javascript.

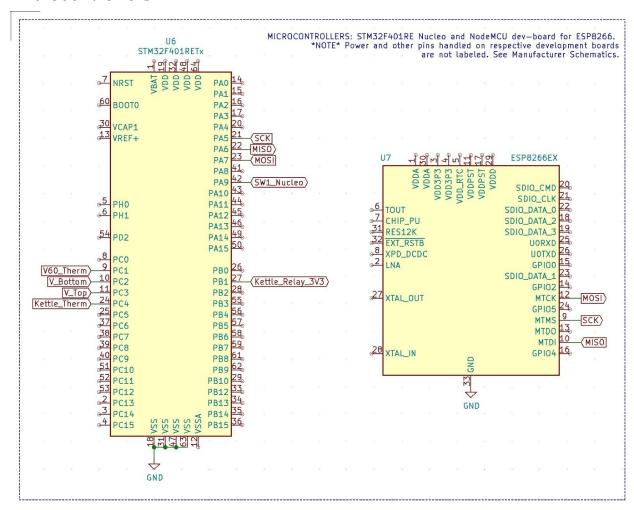
The frontend component handles the storage of current brew variables and the data required to create the graph over time. AJAX is used in order to create a responsive web-app that can plot live data and control the kettle without requiring page reloads. Using AJAX the web-app can generate asynchronous xHTTP requests to the NodeMCU server to begin routines on the STM32. The NodeMCU responds to the xHTTP request with the necessary data which then updates individual elements of the page without requiring a reload.

Storing the data for plotting on the browser side enables multiple users to connect to the same Better Barista simultaneously, and each user can control their graphing settings individually.

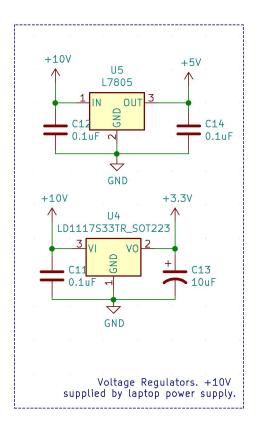
The backend component running on the NodeMCU receives xHTTP requests from the browser and generates corresponding SPI transmissions to the STM32. The ADC data received is then converted into the correct units and sent as a response to the xHTTP request.

# Appendix A: Schematics

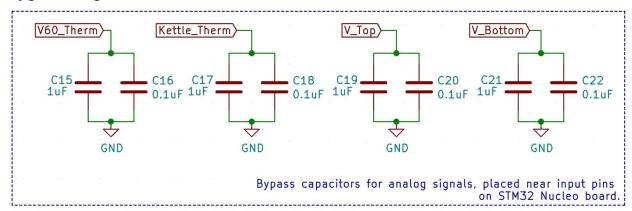
## Microcontrollers



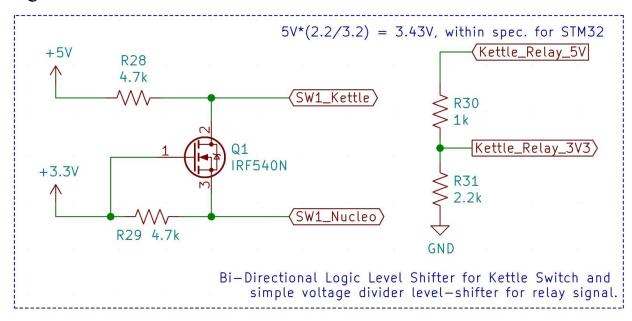
# Voltage Regulators



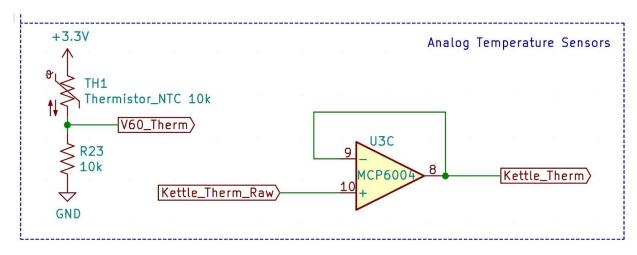
# **Bypass Capacitors**



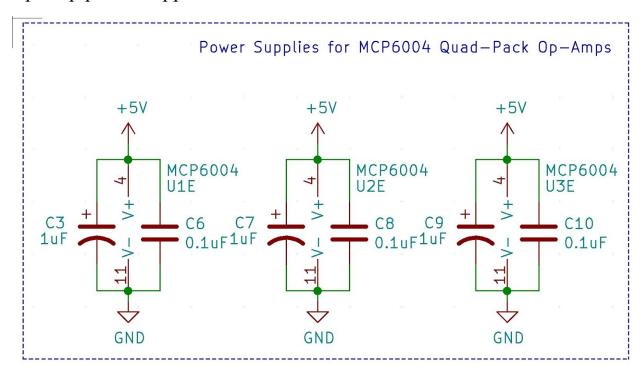
# Logic Level Shifters



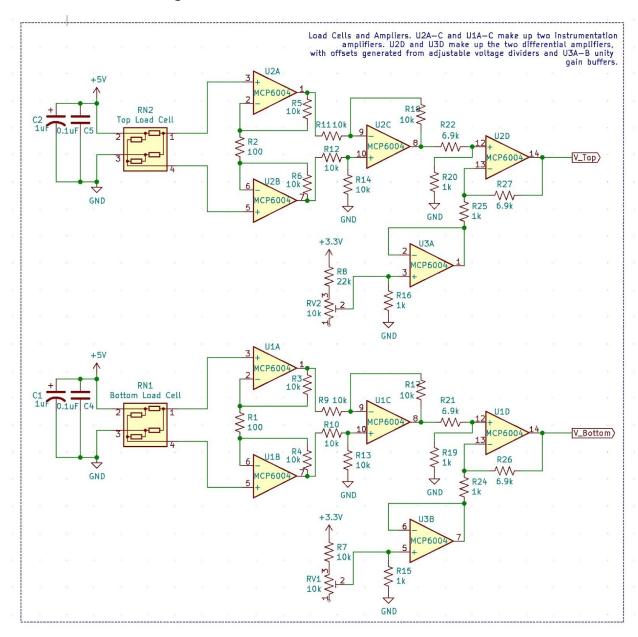
# **Analog Temperature Sensors**



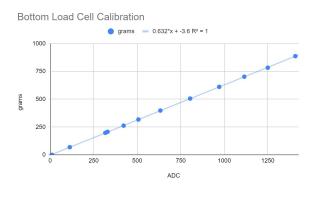
# Op-amp power supplies

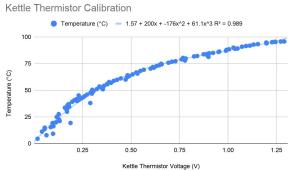


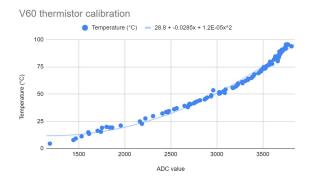
# Load Cells and Amplifiers

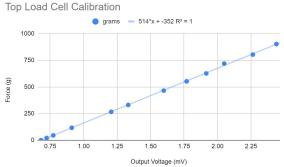


# Appendix B: Sensor Calibration









# Appendix C: Software

### NodeMCU source code

```
#include <ESP8266WiFi.h>
#include <ESP8266WebServer.h>
#include <SPI.h>
#include "index.h" //Our HTML webpage contents with javascripts
const char* ssid = "NETGEAR53";
const char* password = "freshtuba566";
int g kettle temp;
int g bottom scale;
int g v60 temp;
int g kettle status;
ESP8266WebServer server(80); //Server on port 80
```

```
String(g bottom scale) + " " + String(g top scale) + " "+ String(g v60 temp) +
   server.send(200, "text/plane", sensorData); //Send ADC value only to client
void handleKettle() {
    float setTemp = server.arg("temp").toFloat();
setTemp) *4095 / 3.3;
   Serial.print("Temperature set to: ");
   server.send(200, "text/plane", String(foo)); // Return data from last SPI
void setup(void){
```

```
while (WiFi.status() != WL CONNECTED) {
void loop(void){
```

```
* for better barista web-app
const char MAIN page[] PROGMEM = R"=====(
<!doctype html>
<html>
<head>
 <title>Better barista</title>
"https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/Chart.js/2.7.3/Chart.min.js"></script>
     flex-wrap: wrap;
```

```
</head>
font:bold;">Better Barista Brew Buddy  Perfect
Pourover</div>
id="kettle status">Kettle is Off
              <input type="number" id="user set temperature"</pre>
text-alignname="desired temperature" style="font-size: 2.5vw;" min="0"
max="105" value="95"><br>
Kettle</button>
OFF</button>
BREW</button>
GRAPH</button>
              Total Weight
BOTTOM</button>
```

```
TOP</button>
<script>
var cupWeightArr = [];
var funnelWeightArr = []
var totalWeightArr = [];
var funnelTempArr = [];
var timeStampArr = [];
var kettleTemp = 0;
var topScale = 0;
var botScale = 0;
var topTare = 0;
var botTare = 0;
var kettleStatus = 0; // 0 off, 1 heating, 2 at temp, 3 lifted
var runStatus = 0; // 1: run graph, 0: stop graph
function showGraphs()
                label: "Fun Weight",
```

```
fill: false,
options: {
   title: {
        data: funnelTempArr,
options: {
            text: "Temperature Profile"
    line: {
```

```
animation: {
            duration: 0 // general animation time
function getData() {
 botScale).toString() + "q";
topScale.toString() + "g";
            switch(kettleStatus){
"Kettle is Off";
```

```
document.getElementById("kettle status").innerHTML :
"Kettle Heating";
"Kettle is Done";
                    console.log("Kettle is Done")
                    document.getElementById("kettle status").innerHTML =
"Kettle Lifted";
 topTare - botTare);
```

```
runStatus = 0
function clearGraph() {
    funnelWeightArr = []
totalWeightArr = [];
funnelTempArr = [];
function kettleControl(reqtype) {
    xhttp.open("GET", "setKettle?temp="+temp, true);
</script>
</html>
) =====";
```

### STM32F401RE Source Code

#### Main.c

```
#include "STM32F401RE.h"
#include <string.h>
#include "main.h"
#define KETTLE OFF 0b00
#define KETTLE HEATING 0b01
#define KETTLE AT TEMP 0b10
#define KETTLE LIFTED 0b11
#define KETTLE ID 0b00
#define TOP CELL ID 0b10
#define V60 ID 0b11
#define USART ID USART2 ID
#define TEMP_SET 70
#define KETTLE RELAY 1 //PB1
volatile uint8 t kettle set temp = 0;
volatile uint8 t g kettle status = 0; // 0b00 - off, 0b01 - heating, 0b10 - at
temp, Ob11 - lifted
uint16 t g bottom scale;
uint16 t g top scale;
```

```
void kettle on off(uint8 t bool){
    configureClock();
    initUSART(USART2 ID);
    RCC->AHB1ENR.GPIOBEN = 1;
    RCC->APB2ENR |= (1 << 14); //Enables SYSCFG</pre>
```

```
NVIC EnableIRQ(SPI1 IRQn);
   NVIC EnableIRQ(ADC IRQn);
void SPI1 IRQHandler() {
kettleSetTemp(instr arg);
g kettle status);
   serialPrintUSART(msq);
```

```
SPI1->DR.DR = toNode; // result write to data register - will be
transferred out on next transaction
}

void ADC_IRQHandler(){
    while(!ADC1->ADC_SR.AWD);

    uint16_t kettleVal = ADCRead(KETTLE_ID);

    if(kettleVal >= 2000){
        g_kettle_status = KETTLE_LIFTED;
    }
    else{
        g_kettle_on_off(0);
    }

    uint8_t msg[64];
    sprintf(msg, "Kettle HELLO: %d\n\r", ADCRead(KETTLE_ID));

    serialPrintUSART(msg);

    ADC1->ADC_HTR = 4095; // Reset high threshold to avoid constant interrupts
    ADC1->ADC_SR.AWD = 0; // Clear interrupt flag
    return;
}
```

### **SPI** Library

```
#define STM32F4 SPI H
#include <stdint.h> // Include stdint header
#define SPI1 BASE (0x40013000UL)
#define IO volatile
   __IO uint32_t RXONLY
_IO uint32_t DFF
  ___IO uint32_t CRCNEXT
   __IO uint32_t RXDMAEN : 1;
__IO uint32_t TXDMAEN : 1;
__IO uint32_t SSOE : 1;
    IO uint32 t CRCERR : 1;
```

```
IO uint32 t MODF
IO uint32 t BIDIOE
```

```
* -- Fixed peripheral select
* -- Chip select lines directly connected to peripheral device
* -- Mode fault detection enabled
* -- WDRBT disabled
* -- LLB disabled
* -- PCS = 0000 (Peripheral 0 selected), means NPCS[3:0] = 1110
* Refer to the datasheet for more low-level details. */
void spiInitMaster(uint32_t clkdivide, uint32_t cpol, uint32_t ncpha);

void spiInitSlave(uint32_t cpol, uint32_t cpha);

/* Transmits a character (1 byte) over SPI and returns the received character.
* -- send: the character to send over SPI
* -- return: the character received over SPI */
uint8_t spiSendReceive(uint8_t send);

/* Transmits a short (2 bytes) over SPI and returns the received short.
* -- send: the short to send over SPI
* -- return: the short received over SPI */
uint16_t spiSendReceive16(uint16_t send);

#endif
```

```
#include "STM32F401RE SPI.h"
#include "STM32F401RE RCC.h"
#include "STM32F401RE GPIO.h"
   RCC->AHB1ENR.GPIOAEN = 1;
   RCC->AHB1ENR.GPIOBEN = 1;
   GPIOA->AFRL = (1 << 30) | (1 << 28);
   GPIOA->AFRL = (1 << 18) | (1 << 16);
   SPI1->CR1.BR = br;
   SPI1->CR1.DFF = 1;
   SPI1->CR1.SSM = 0;
void spiInitSlave(uint32 t cpol, uint32 t cpha) {
```

```
RCC->AHB1ENR.GPIOAEN = 1;
   RCC->AHB1ENR.GPIOBEN = 1;
   pinMode (GPIOA, 7, GPIO ALT, 0, 0b11, 0b10); // PA7, Arduino D11, SPI1 MOSI
   SPI1->CR1.SSM = 0;
   SPI1->CR1.MSTR = 0;
   SPI1->CR1.SPE = 1;
uint16 t spiSendReceive16(uint16 t send) {
   if(SPI1->CR1.MSTR){
       digitalWrite(GPIOB, 6, 0);
   SPI1->CR1.SPE = 1;
   SPI1->DR.DR = send;
  SPI1->CR1.SPE = 0;
   if(SPI1->CR1.MSTR) {
```

```
return rec;
}

uint8_t spiSendReceive8(uint8_t send) {
   if(SPII->CR1.MSTR) {
        digitalWrite(GPIOB, 6, 0);
   }

SPII->CR1.SPE = 1;
SPII->DR.DR = send;

while(!(SPII->SR.RXNE));
uint8_t rec = SPII->DR.DR;

// SPII->CR1.SPE = 0;

if(SPII->CR1.MSTR) {
        digitalWrite(GPIOB, 6, 1);
   }

return rec;
}
```

### **ADC Library**

```
#include <stdint.h>
#include "STM32F401RE RCC.h"
typedef struct {
 volatile uint32_t AWD : 1;
volatile uint32_t EOC : 1;
volatile uint32_t JEOC : 1;
typedef struct {
  volatile uint32 t EOCIE : 1;
  volatile uint32_t SCAN : 1;
volatile uint32_t AWDSGL : 1;
```

```
volatile uint32 t EXTSEL : 4;
typedef struct {
 volatile uint32 t SQ13 : 5;
typedef struct {
typedef struct {
 volatile uint32 t SQ3 : 5;
 volatile uint32 t SQ4 : 5;
typedef struct{
    volatile uint32_t : 4;
volatile uint32_t VBATE : 1;
volatile uint32_t TSVREFE : 1;
```

```
volatile uint32_t ADC_JOFR3;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JOFR4;
volatile uint32_t ADC_HTR;
volatile uint32_t ADC_LTR;
volatile ADC_SQR1_bits ADC_SQR1;
volatile ADC_SQR2_bits ADC_SQR2;
volatile ADC_SQR3_bits ADC_SQR3;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JSQR;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JDR1;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JDR1;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JDR3;
volatile uint32_t ADC_JDR3;
volatile uint32_t ADC_DR4;
volatile ADC_DR_bits ADC_DR;
} ADC_TypeDef;

typedef struct {
   volatile ADC_CCR_bits ADC_CCR;
} ADC_CCR_TypeDef *) ADC1_BASE)
#define ADC1 ((ADC_TypeDef *) ADC1_BASE)
#define ADC1_CCR ((ADC_CCR_TypeDef *) ADC1_CCR_ADDR)

void ADC_Init();
uint16_t ADCRead(uint16_t sense_ID); // Reads PC0,1,2,3
#endif
```

```
#include "STM32F401RE ADC.h"
#include "STM32F401RE RCC.h"
#include "STM32F401RE GPIO.h"
void ADC Init() {
   ADC1->ADC CR1.SCAN = 1; // Enable Scan mode
```

```
ADC1->ADC_CR2.SWSTART = 1; // Begin conversion
while(!(ADC1->ADC_SR.EOC)); // Wait for end of convt
data[0] = ADC1->ADC_DR.DATA; // read & return adc

while(!(ADC1->ADC_SR.EOC)); // Wait for end of convt
data[1] = ADC1->ADC_DR.DATA; // read & return adc

while(!(ADC1->ADC_SR.EOC)); // Wait for end of convt
data[2] = ADC1->ADC_DR.DATA; // read & return adc

while(!(ADC1->ADC_SR.EOC)); // Wait for end of convt
data[3] = ADC1->ADC_DR.DATA; // read & return adc

return data[sense_ID];
}
```

## Modified section of GPIO library

```
#include "STM32F401RE GPIO.h"
       case GPIO ALT:
           GPIO PORT PTR->OTYPER |= (otype << pin);
```